

## WASHINGTON LETTER.

[From our Regular Correspondent.]  
WASHINGTON, March 14.

President Harrison has not written that letter stating that he would not allow his name to go before the next National Convention of his party, although a few days ago prominent United States Senators were quoted as saying that such a letter would shortly be written. The general opinion here seems to be that this story originated in the wishes of those Senators antagonistic to Mr. Harrison, the same gentlemen who are trying to concentrate the anti-Harrison strength upon some man—about as difficult a political job as was ever undertaken.

Senator Hill is said to be very much embarrassed by the efforts of the Cleveland Democrats to force him to state his position on the free coinage of silver, and it is stated that he would very gladly have postponed his trip down South had it been possible, because of his fear that he will somehow be roped into a declaration of opinion on the same subject. Some of those who claim to enjoy his confidence say that he favors free coinage, but will, in deference to the sentiment of his State, vote against it when it reaches the Senate after being passed by the House, as it certainly will be next week. They add, however, that Mr. Hill is willing to promise that he will not veto a free-coinage bill should he be elected President, and it be passed by the Fifty-third Congress. It should be remembered, in considering this, that Mr. Hill himself has said nothing on the subject further than his now famous "I'll not cross that bridge until I get to it."

Mr. Blaine's continued illness has again started rumors of his early retirement from office. But at his house it is said that he contemplates going South for a short while as soon as he gets well enough to travel, but expects to resume his duties a little later on.

The Alliance Congressmen have held several conferences concerning the necessary steps to be taken to see that Alliance interests are properly looked after in the campaign that will precede the Congressional election. It is probable that they will follow the example of the old parties to the extent of appointing a Congressional Campaign Committee to look after the distribution of documents, etc., in all the districts where there is any probability of electing Alliance men. These gentlemen all deny the rumor of a probable split between the Western and Southern Alliance men, which has been current here since the St. Louis conference.

The inventors of this country have not only paid the expenses of the United States Patent Office, but \$4,000,000 of their money is now lying idle in the Treasury, where it has year by year accumulated as the surplus earnings of that office. And yet, if one of those inventors, or anybody else, has need of a printed copy of a patent granted he cannot get it. Why? Because lack of room to store and arrange these copies has compelled the Commissioner of Patents to stop furnishing them. Congress is really the culprit in this case, for it has neglected to authorize the Patent Office to spend a portion of the money to its credit in getting room enough to transact its enormous and constantly increasing business.

More than one hundred Congressmen, representing Northern, Western, and Central States, have signed a letter addressed to the House Committee on Rivers and Harbors, requesting that the proposed 21-foot ship channel through the Great Lakes be incorporated in the River and Harbor Bill, and that a proper initial appropriation be made therefor.

A noticeable feature of the tariff debate now going on in the House is the absence of undisputed facts in the speeches on both sides. The Democratic speaker will tell his hearers that the McKinley law is carrying the country to destruction at a terrible rate of speed, and that nothing but the election of a Democratic President and Congress can save it, but the facts he presents as proof are very meagre. The Republican speaker replies by stating that it is the McKinley law that gives the country its present prosperity, which can only be maintained by the election of a Republican President and Congress, but the facts he presents are about on a par with those of his opponent. A distinguished United States Senator, now dead, once said privately that there were not ten men in the United States who thoroughly understood the tariff in all its branches, and their correspondent is inclined to think that he was right, and that the number has not been greatly increased since he said so.

No answer has been received from Lord Salisbury to the despatch sent him last week protesting against his refusal to renew the modus vivendi, and no other move is expected until he is heard from. The talk in official circles is of a peaceable settlement, but it is known that arrangements are being made to concentrate a sufficient naval force in Behring Sea to prevent poaching, whatever Lord Salisbury may decide to do.

**List of Patents**  
Granted to New Jersey Inventors this week, reported by C. A. Snow & Co., Solicitors of American and Foreign Patents, opp. U. S. Patent Office, Washington, D.C.:  
O. Brandt & F. Hoffman, Newark, syrup-strainer; C. G. Collins, Kearny, purifying brine; S. Cox, Bridgeton, furnace for liquid fuel; F. A. Feldkamp, Newark, electric attachment for pianos; E. W. Frazer, Orange, air moistening device; S. B. Goff, Camden, water-motor; E. A. Gross, Camden, water filter; F. W. Jost, Jersey City, car-coupler; E. Klahn, Jersey City, watch regulator; E. P. Martinez, Jersey City, elastic vehicle-tire; H. Schloerb, Greenville, adjustable lamp shade; A. Seher, Newark, making compounds of pyroxylite; J. Stretch, Newark, fish-hook; E. Vangezell, Atlantic City, valve; E. Weston, Newark, electric measuring instrument and movable coil therefor; A. G. Williams, Newark, fancy box; A. J. Worrall, Rutherford, music-box; A. J. Wolff, Jersey City, resilient frame attachment for mats.

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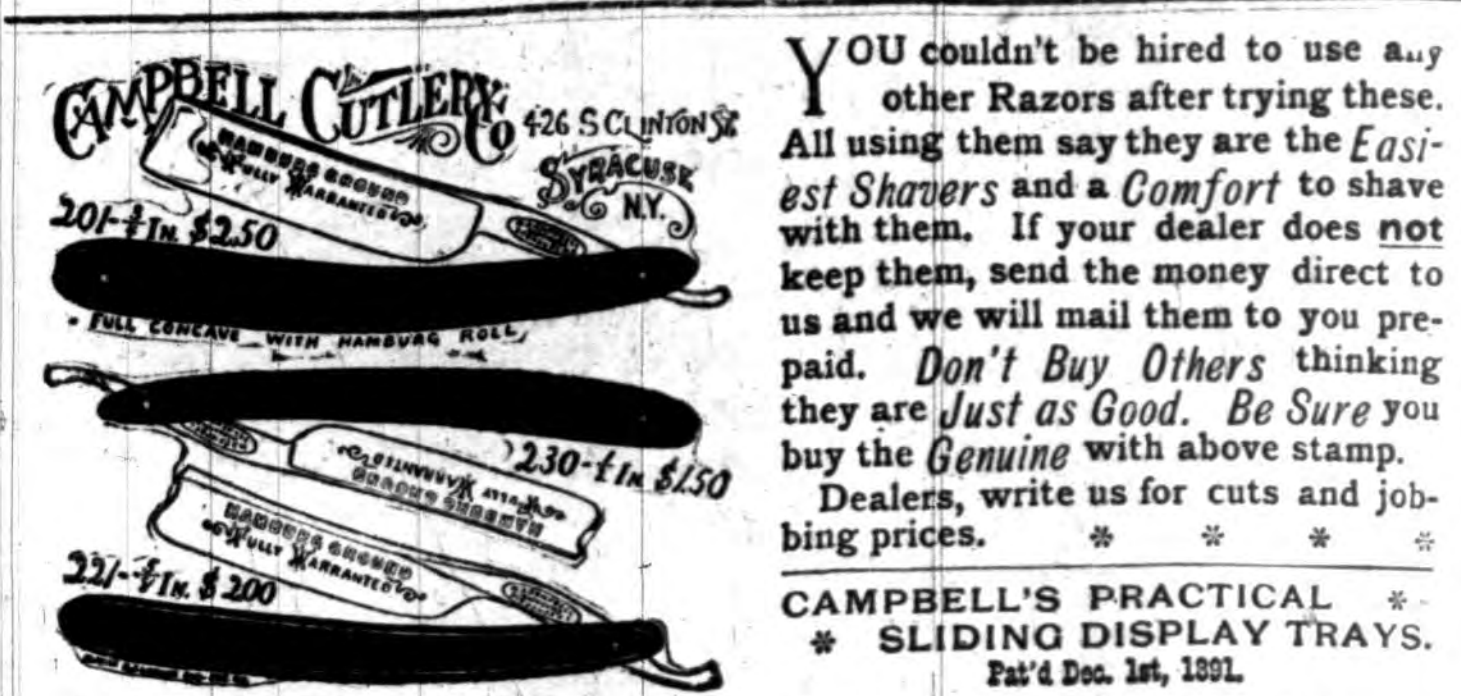
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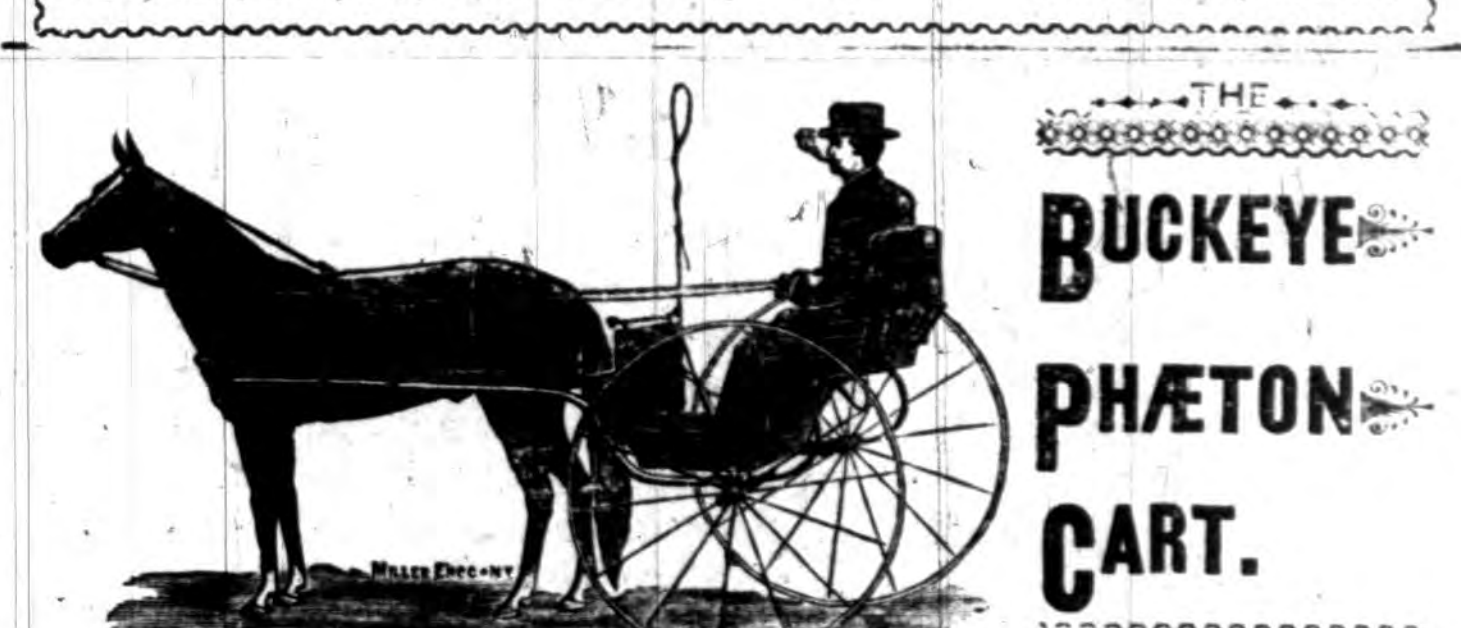
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